

Message Text

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13-12

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-11 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGR-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05

L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

/098 W

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R 151800Z JAN 76

FM USDEL MTN GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1035

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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H PASS CODEL

PASS STR FOR INFO

PASS AGRIC

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MTN ETRD

SUBJECT: TROPICAL PRODUCTS CONSULTATION --ARGENTINA

REF: 75 STATE 276773, 75 MTN GENEVA 6406, MTN GENEVA A-2

1. CONSULTATIONS HELD JAN 13 WITH ARGENTINE MTN DELEGATION (ARLIA) ON THEIR INITIAL AND SUPPLEMENTARY TROPICAL PRODUCT (TP) REQUESTS LISTS (REFS 75 MTN GENEVA 6406 AND MTN GENEVA A-2). US MTN DEL DETAILED THREE CATEGORIES OF US REACTIONS, NOTING THAT THERE ARE NO CATEGORY 1 PRODUCTS (I.E. PROBABLY NEGOTIABLE IN TP GROUP) ON SHORT ARGENTINE REQUEST LIST NOR ARE ANY REQUESTED PRODUCTS INCLUDED IN US GSP. USDEL INDICATED, HOWEVER, SEVERAL CATEGORY 1 PRODUCTS NOT CURRENTLY ON ARGENTINE REQUEST LIST.

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TINE REQUEST LIST IN WHICH ARGENTINA HAD SUBSTANTIAL TRADE INTEREST AND OUTLINED VIEWS ON LDC CONTRIBUTIONS TO TP PACKAGE.

2. ARGENTINE DEL EXPRESSED GENERAL SATISFACTION WITH USDEL COMMENTS, ESPECIALLY DETAILED NATURE OF PRODUCT-BY-PRODUCT RESPONSE WHICH HE CONTRASTED WITH 15 MINUTE GENERAL OVERVIEW GIVEN BY EC MTN DEL EARLIER THIS WEEK. ARGENTINE DEL EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN WITH US EMPHASIS ON MFN APPROACH ON TARIFFS, ASKING HOW SPECIAL AND DIFFERENTIATED TREATMENT COULD BE GIVEN LDC'S AND SUGGESTING EITHER SEPARATE BOUND TARIFF SCHEDULE FOR LDC'S OR ADVANCED IMPLEMENTATION OF MFN TARIFF CUTS FOR LDC'S. USDEL REPLIED US HAD NO AUTHORITY FOR SEPARATE LDC TARIFF SCHEDULE NOT FOR ADVANCE IMPLEMENTATION OF TARIFF REDUCTIONS FOR LDC'S. NOTED POSSIBILITY, HOWEVER, OF MORE RAPID MFN TARIFF STAGING ON PRODUCTS OF PRINCIPAL INTEREST TO LDC'S.

3. ON LDC CONTRIBUTIONS TO TP PACKAGE, ARGENTINE DEL STATED IT VIEW OF ARGENTINE GENEVA MTN DEL, WHICH HAD NOT YET BEEN FULLY APPROVED BY GOA IN BUENOS AIRES, THAT US HAD RIGHT TO EXPECT LDC CONTRIBUTIONS TO MTN. ARGENTINE DEL POSITION WAS THAT ARGENTINA'S CONTRIBUTIONS WOULD BE DECIDED UPON AT END OF NEGOTIATIONS WHEN FULL BENEFITS OF NEGOTIATIONS COULD BE ASSESSED. ARGENTINE DEL WAS NOT OPPOSED, HOWEVER, TO BILATERAL DISCUSSION OF "PARTIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR PARTIAL BENEFITS", SUCH AS IN TP PACKAGE CONTEXT, BUT NOTED THAT IT WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO PUBLICLY AFFIRM THIS POSITION IN MULTILATERAL MEETINGS. ARGENTINE DEL MADE FERVENT PLEA, HOWEVER, THAT US NOT ASK FOR REMOVAL OF 1-1/2 PCT. CONSULAR INVOICE FEE (WHICH IS TO BE INCREASED TO 3 PCT.), NOTING THAT CONSULAR INVOICE WAS NOT A BARRIER TO TRADE AS IT ISSUED AUTOMATICALLY AND EXPEDITIOUSLY BY ARGENTINE CONSULS WITH FEES earmarked TO FINANCE ARGENTINE DIPLOMATIC AND CONSULAR REPRESENTATIVE AND ARGENTINE CONTRIBUTIONS TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

4. ARGENTINE DEL INQUIRED BY US HAD PLACED ON ITS GSP PRODUCT LIST PRODUCTS THAT HAD NOT BEEN REQUESTED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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BY PRINCIPAL SUPPLIES, E.G. 107.48 CORNED BEEF, AND INQUIRED IF US WOULD BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER MFN TREATMENT OF SUCH PRODUCTS. USDEL NOTED IT NOT INFORMED ON RATIONALE FOR INCLUSION OF INDIVIDUAL ITEMS ON GSP, NOTING US DESIRE TO ACHIEVE AS BROAD TRADE COVERAGE AS POSSIBLE. USDEL NOTED THAT IT PREPARED TO CONSIDER MFN CONCESSIONS ON SOME GSP PRODUCTS IN TP NEGOTIATIONS BUT THAT ON CORNED BEEF WE HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS BUT IS PERSONAL BELIEF MTN DEL THAT THIS PRODUCT COULD BEST BE TREATED IN SOME OTHER GROUP IN THE MTN.

5. ARGENTINE DEL SAID IT EXPECTED TO NOTIFY OTHER AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS OF INTEREST TO ARGENTINA IN AGRICULTURE GROUP BEFORE END OF JANUARY.

6. COMMENTS ON INDIVIDUAL PRODUCTS FOLLOW:

110.40, 110.4710, 110.4720, 110.4740 & 110.4750 (FISH PRODUCTS)
ARGENTINE DEL DROPPED REQUESTS WHEN INFORMED NO TARIFF RATE QUOTAS EXIST ON THESE FISH PRODUCTS.

152.42 (APRICOT PASTE AND PULP) PRODUCT INCLUDED ON SUPPLEMENTARY REQUEST LIST AND USDEL NOTED IT WOULD SEEK INSTRUCTIONS FROM WASHINGTON AGENCIES.

152.7440 (OTHER FRUIT PASTE AND PULP) ARGENTINA TO SEEK TO IDENTIFY SPECIFIC PRODUCT OF INTEREST.

165.35 (CONCENTRATED CITRUS JUICES) ARGENTINE DEL NOTED INTEREST WAS IN GRAPEFRUIT JUICE AND REQUESTED EX-OUT CONSIDERATION, USDEL NOTED NO RECORD OF IMPORTS THIS PRODUCT FROM ARGENTIA IN '73 AND '74 AND WILL SEEK CLARIFICATION.

176.60 (TUNG OIL) ARGENTINE DEL SAID HAD REQUESTED BINDING OF ZERO MFN DUTY AS VALUABLE CONCESSION FOR WHICH PRICE WOULD NOT BE "TOO HIGH". USDEL NOTED IT WOULD SEEK INSTRUCTIONS ON POSSIBILITY OF NEGOTIATING BINDING.

7. ARGENTINE DEL TO SEEK ASCERTAIN TRADE INTERESTS IN FOLLOWING CATEGORY 1 PRODUCTS IN WHICH ARGENTINA HAS SIGNIFICANT TRADE INTERESTS:
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470.57 MANGROVE, OAK AND QUEBRACHO TANNING EXTRACT

791.25 LEATHER, N.S.P.F., CUT OR SHAPED, FOR CONVERSION INTO FOOTWEAR

791.75 WEARING APPAREL OF LEATHER

8. ACTION REQUESTED: WASHINGTON AGENCIES' ADVICE ON PARA 6 ITEMS 152.42, 165.35 AND 176.60 REQUESTED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION, TROPICAL PRODUCTS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976MTNGE00271
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760016-0795
From: MTN GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760154/aaaabvwl.tel
Line Count: 162
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 276773, 76 MTN GENEVA 6406, 76 MTN GENEVA A-2
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by SmithRJ>; APPROVED <13 MAY 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TROPICAL PRODUCTS CONSULTATION --ARGENTINA
TAGS: ETRD, US, AR, MTN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006